

MORNING MEDITATION

Wednesday, Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

St. Francis de Sales reminds us that “correcting a person should be gradual and gentle and with much compassion, prudence and discretion.”

James 4:13-17

In this excerpt, we read the advice that James gave the Jews who went from city to city looking for opportunities to practice their commercial abilities. He says, no man has a right to make confident plans for the future. Because he does not know what even a single day may bring forth. Man proposes, but God disposes. The uncertainty of life is not a cause for fear or inaction. It is the reason for complete trust in the Lord.

Psalm 49

**Hear this, all you peoples;
Hearken all you who dwell in the world,
Of lowly birth or high degree, rich and poor alike.....
In no way can a man redeem himself,
Or pay his own ransom to God.**

Mark 9:38-40

Jesus teaches tolerance. This is of great significance to us at this time in our history. Let the one, who lives a good life, live the good life.....let the one, who does a good work, do the good work.....there may be differences in thinking, ideologies, beliefs and doctrines.....be tolerant and appreciate the good you see.....

Doctrines and beliefs and churches and religions are judged by the people they hold, nurture and sustain.

Our character, our life style, our values, our relationship – who we are and how we live, how good and noble our lives are – these are the most important factors and not our affiliation to groups and organizations.

“God fulfills himself in many ways” (Tennyson). We need to learn to respect the ways others have found to fulfill themselves in God.

Let God reveal himself and do His work the way he chooses to.....Let God be God!

Saint of the Day, May 22 –St. Rita of Cascia and 23 other saints are remembered this day.

Rita was born in 1386 in Roccaparena, Umbria, Italy. She was married at the age of 12 to a violent and ill-tempered husband. He was murdered 18 years later and she forgave his murderers, praying that her twin sons, who had sworn to avenge their father's death may also forgive. She was granted this grace, and her sons, who died young, died reconciled to God.

After the death of her husband and sons, Rita tried to join the Augustinian nuns in Cascia. She was refused at first because she was a widow, but eventually allowed to enter the convent where she lived the last 40 years of her life in prayer, mortification and service to the people of Cascia. Rita was bedridden for the last four years of her life, consuming almost nothing except for the Eucharist. She died of tuberculosis at the age of 70 on May 22, 1456 and was canonized in 1900 by Pope Leo XIII

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